



# TRINITY ACADEMY

Innovative Classical Learning

## Speech Technique Suggestions for Learning Your Selection

- Practice your selection every day. Say it at home every day. Be sure to say it for your parents at least once a day. Do your very best each time.
- Stand correctly. Stand up tall, yet relaxed. Look at your entire audience. Say the title and author, then wait for three seconds before you begin the selection. At the end of the selection hold your last motion or feeling for three seconds, then come back to your beginning position as you smile at your audience. Never rush back to your seat on the last word.
- Say your selection with expression (feeling). Some of the feelings are listed below:
  - a. Gladness
  - b. Surprise
  - c. Sadness
  - d. Worry
  - e. Anger
  - f. Wonder
  - g. Fear
  - h. Pride
- Use all your face muscles to show these feelings. Your voice should also project these feelings.
- Figure out the feelings you should have with your selection. There are many other types of feelings than the ones listed, so use your imagination. Use all the feelings your selection calls for each time you say it. This will help you to learn quickly and really enjoy saying your selection. You may want to practice in front of a mirror to see whether you are really showing the feeling that is needed.
- Hand motions are welcomed as long as they enhance the piece and are not distracting or too frequent. In general, motions should be used less and less as the student progresses through the Lower School grades and the student should work at telling the story while using their voice and facial expressions. However, hand motions can

enhance a piece, and a student ought not to be marked down for using them. If hand motions are used to a distracting level, that can be noted by the judges in scoring.

- Speak slowly and clearly. Stop after each thought. Remember to speak with a tall mouth (you should be able to put two fingers between your lips when you talk). This will help you say your words clearly and loudly. Say every sound (beginning, middle, and ending) of every word in your selection. A voice recorder is a tremendous help in learning and practicing your selection. You should train yourself to project your voice for an audience.